

235665

**Inquiries Regarding Graduated Commercial Driver's Licensing:
Qualifications, Testing and Licensing Standards**

Docket No: FMSCA-2002-12334 - 8

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DOCKETS

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Mail to: Dockets Management System (DMS)
U.S. Department of Transportation
Room Plaza-401
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Fax to: (202) 493-2251

1. Please indicate your primary occupation(s) from the following list:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> truck driver, | <input type="checkbox"/> owner-operator, |
| <input type="checkbox"/> motor coach/bus driver, | <input type="checkbox"/> fleet manager/owner, |
| <input type="checkbox"/> company safety director, | <input type="checkbox"/> transit system administrator, |
| <input type="checkbox"/> commercial driver trainer, | <input type="checkbox"/> motor carrier insurance provider, |
| <input type="checkbox"/> risk assessment specialist, | <input type="checkbox"/> labor union representative, |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public interest group, | <input type="checkbox"/> enforcement officer (motor carrier safety), |
| <input type="checkbox"/> motor vehicle administrator (State driver's license), | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other <u>Green Feed Fertilizer Manager</u> | |

2. Do you think a graduated commercial driver's license (GCDL) is needed? YES NO

3. Should issuance of a GCDL be linked to enrollment in a commercial driving training program? YES

4. Should the curricula of a commercial driver training program meet widely-endorsed standards for a student to be eligible to receive a GCDL while in training? YES NO

5. Approximately how many months/years of entry level training and experience should new drivers receive before graduating to an unrestricted CDL? 1 year

6. Should an applicant's past driving record be considered in issuing a GCDL? YES NO

7. How many of each of the following types of motor vehicle accidents and convictions within the past 12 months should cause an applicant to be denied a GCDL?

- ☐ passenger car or light truck motor vehicle accidents,
- ☐ traffic violations and citations,
- ☒ DUI/DWI convictions,
- ☒ controlled substances convictions,
- ☒ reckless driving convictions,
- ☐ other convictions for motor vehicle traffic control violations

8. Should penalties for drivers holding a GCDL, who have at-fault accidents or moving violations, be more severe than those for drivers with an unrestricted CDL? YES NO

9. How many months/years of passenger car or light truck driving experience should an applicant have before being issued a GCDL? 1 year

10. Which of the following restrictions should apply to entry level drivers operating under a GCDL?
- ☐ reduced hours of service,
 - ☒ limitations on equipment type (doubles/triples, tank vehicles, motor coaches, etc.),
 - ☒ limitations on type of cargo (e.g., hazardous materials, livestock, liquids, etc.),
 - ☐ limitations on weather and visibility conditions (e.g., ice, snow, fog, night driving),
 - ☒ limitations on geography or terrain features (e.g., mountains),
 - ☐ limitations on distance or types of highways (e.g., miles per day, interstate highways, etc.),
 - ☐ other _____

11. Should a fully licensed CDL driver be required to accompany and observe a driver with a GCDL?
YES NO If yes, for how many weeks/months/years? 1-2 weeks

12. What is the minimum age at which an applicant should be eligible to receive a GCDL?
Circle one: 16yr 17yr 18yr 19yr 20yr other _____

13. Assuming that training requirements are met, what is the minimum age at which the holder of a graduated CDL should be eligible to graduate to an unrestricted CDL? YES NO 18 years

14. How much testing (knowledge and road test) should be given to GCDL holders prior to issuing an unrestricted CDL?

- ☒ single test to graduate to an unrestricted CDL,
- ☐ periodically while holding a GCDL until training is complete,
- ☐ initial test plus re-test at 1 year after receiving initial GCDL,
- ☐ other _____

15. What other factors do you feel must be addressed in the implementation of a graduated CDL program? Limitations on a Class A GCDL should be more stringent than a Class B GCDL.

16. What costs would you or your organization anticipate incurring if a GCDL program is implemented?
minimal

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